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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1910.

The Trend in Militarism.

Day by day, it seems that we are
getting nearer to the time when the
theories of those advocating interna-
tional peace shall become fact. It is
very evident that the growth of inven-
tion is making war between any two
great nations, nations of vast resources,
impracticable and impossible. The ac-
tive men at the head of affairs in great
states are even coming to realize this.
Speaking at the Mansion House, Mr.
Lloyd-George, the British chancellor of
the exchequer, said:

"But I must admit that the increase in
expenditures not only in this country,
but in every land under the sun, is due
to what that great and distinguished
sailor, Lord Charles Beresford, referred to
in the House of Commons the other day
as the mad and insane competition in
armaments between the various coun-
tries of the world. The countries of the
world are spending annually four hun-
dred and fifty millions (\$2,250,000,000)
upon this machinery of destruction. In twenty
years there has been an increase of two
hundred millions (\$1,000,000,000) per annum
on this expenditure. All nations seem
to be infected with an epidemic of prodi-
gality in that respect, which seems to be
sweeping over the world, and sweeping
to destruction. We take the lead in that
expenditure."

That is the voice of England. Great
Britain is, of course, the most lavish
spender of money for military and
naval protection. Germany comes next,
and the United States is not a bad
third. When we are confronted, as
we are in Mr. Lloyd-George's speech,
with the actual figures, who can doubt
that it is a condition, not a theory, that
confronts us in the increase of the
military spirit. Surely in the face of
this frightful military waste it becomes
the duty of every loyal citizen to use
his influence to call a halt.

The most optimistic of the advocates
of militarism claim that these vast and
prodigious expenditures are necessary to
insure the future of their countries.
None of them seems to take into account
the fact that all of what is accomplish-
ed by the expenditure of these billions
might be accomplished equally as well
by international agreement. Take the
question, for instance, of fortifying the
Panama canal. It is so easy to say
that the canal is ours; that we have
spent millions in constructing it, and
that we shall spend millions more to
protect it. But, after all, what forts,
or armaments, could possibly protect
the Panama canal? Instead of spending
millions of dollars to construct fortifica-
tions, and other millions annually to
keep those fortifications equipped and
in repair, can we not accomplish pre-
cisely the end we desire to gain—the
protection of the canal—by an interna-
tional agreement which will practically
cost us nothing?

The time is coming, we are sure, when
the people who ultimately have to bear
the enormous burdens of these armies
and navies—armies which we are told
are inadequate and navies which in ten
years become obsolete—will rebel, and
demand that the authority in the
government shall find a better and a
surer way to insure peace and to foster
prosperity.

Now that the colonel has been up in a
flying machine, why not call upon him
to try upping a world's championship
baseball game?

Army "Mistaken Identity."

The dry and musty documents of the
accounting offices of the public Treasury
now and then contain interesting mate-
rial. A situation out of the ordinary is
that which involves the claim of Lieut.
Austin Allen Parker, Twenty-fourth In-
fantry, for pay as a second lieutenant of
that arm for a little more than a month,
back in 1899. The officer also claims credit
in the computation of his longevity in-
crease for service in that capacity. It
appears that this officer in May, 1899,
accepted a commission as a second lieut-
enant in the army, which commission
was made out in the name of Allen
Parker, and was sent to the address of
Austin Allen Parker. There happened to
be an Allen Parker who had passed his
examination for commission, and who is
now a captain in the Twenty-first In-
fantry, on duty in the Philippines. The
War Department duly received the ac-
ceptance and oath of office of Austin
Allen Parker and assumed that this was
the person who had passed the examina-
tion, and for whom the commission was
intended. Austin Allen Parker had never
been designated for appointment, nor sub-
jected to a final examination, but ac-
cepted the commission intended for Allen
Parker, and forwarded his oath of office
to the Adjutant General of the Army
over a month after the date of the re-
ceipt by him of this commission. No
cause was given for the delay in accept-
ing the commission. The War Depart-
ment informed Austin Allen Parker of
the status of the case, and the President,
in view of the circumstances, authorized

his examination for appointment. He
was found qualified and was duly ap-
pointed, to rank from July 22, 1899. The
Adjutant General said in an official com-
munication to the Comptroller respecting
the claim:

"It will be seen by the above that it
was not the intention of the President to
appoint Mr. Parker to the position he
now holds, but, in order to rectify an
error which was partially committed in
this office, the President graciously con-
sented to give the man an appointment,
and did so as soon as he had passed the
 requisite examination and became eligi-
ble under the law."

The Comptroller, who is called upon to
make a final decision on this claim, had
no difficulty in determining that Lieut.
Parker has no right to the one month's
pay as a second lieutenant of infantry
under a commission intended for another
person. The Comptroller makes the very
just remark that "it would seem that
instead of holding the commission for
more than a month without making in-
quiry as to why it was sent to him, he
should have known, or at least the facts
stated by the Adjutant General were
sufficient to cause him to make inquiry
whether 'Allen Parker,' named in the
commission, was intended for him." If
the government had issued a check to
Allen Parker, and by mistake it had
been mailed to Austin Allen Parker, with
whom the government had never had any
transaction, it does not require much
in the way of an appreciation of the in-
tegrities of the situation to regard Austin
Allen Parker as possessing no right to
the money, and as obligated to refund the
money if he succeeded in cashing the check.

Talk about your paradoxes—Col. Roose-
velt is to lecture at Harvard on "Peace."

A New Idea in Conservation.

In all this discussion about conser-
vation of natural resources few of us
have thought that like pension bills—
conservation could be retroactive. But
Mr. Gifford Pinchot has evolved a new
idea which, we believe, should appeal
with great force to the American
people. Mr. Pinchot in expounding his
ideas of conservation has come to the
belief that when the Federal govern-
ment turned over to the railroads of the
country great tracts of land on either
side of the roadway, it, by implication,
reserved to itself the mineral rights.

Mr. Pinchot declares that the govern-
ment will not do its duty to the peo-
ple of the United States if it does not
exhaust every possible means at its
command to assail the title of the rail-
roads to the mineral lands, to the oil
fields, and revert the titles to these
in the people of the United States. We
are willing to believe that before Mr.
Pinchot had taken this stand, he had
investigated the subject and knows
with how much right or justice such a
contention could be maintained. It
is a matter, of course, which ultimately
the Supreme Court of the United States
will have to decide. The coal lands, mineral
lands, and oil lands now in the posses-
sion of the railroads of the United
States, granted them freely by the
Federal government, are of incalculable
wealth, and Mr. Pinchot estimates that
if these could be returned to the govern-
ment it would mean an increase of
national wealth—taken from private
hands—that would approximate \$700 for
every man, woman, and child in the
country.

It is specifically and particularly
against the Southern Pacific Railroad
that Mr. Gifford Pinchot asks that the
Attorney General shall proceed. This
particular railroad received from the
government an award of land extending
twenty miles on either side of its road-
bed for every odd section traversed by
its tracks. A good deal of this land
was sold by the railroad at very low
prices in order to get it settled and
thus create trade for the road. Much
of it remains unsettled and seems to
be practically valueless. But recently
came the discovery of oil in California,
and then it was found that the Southern
Pacific owned practically half of the
oil-bearing territory. Land which had
been supposed to be valueless has sud-
denly become worth thousands of dol-
lars per acre. Mr. Pinchot believes that
it is within the power of Congress to
enact a law which shall assert the claim
of the Federal government to all this
wealth, on the theory that it was never
intended that the mineral and oil rights
should be granted to railroads. As to
the justice of Mr. Pinchot's contention, few
of us are competent to speak, but it is
evident that the former Chief Forester
has raised an issue which must be
thrashed out in Congress and which
may result in enormous good to the
American people.

If they keep on making fool health
regulations, we can all of us get jobs
as inspectors of something.

That fellow who pitched to Larry and
allowed him to get eight hits need not
hope for a job with the Nationals. We
have enough of his kind.

A Boston professor has invented a
trap for microbes, but why in the
world should any one want to catch
them?

It is fun to boss a convention, but to
be held responsible for its actions is a
bore.

It takes the European monarchies some
time to recognize a new republic after
they see it.

If those Illinois legislators really did
commit perjury to convict themselves
of taking bribes, they must have had an
abnormal thirst for notoriety.

A prominent evangelist says that the
great problem is how to reach the city.
That is what residents of Anacostia
think, too.

That chap who attempted to fly from
Chicago to New York and got only seven-
teen miles, was at least that much
better off.

Something always happens to Caruso
just before he starts to New York to
sing.

English suffragettes are to wear a newly
designed costume to distinguish them
from other women. As if that were
necessary!

"An optimist is a man who makes
lemonade out of the lemons handed to
him," says Woodrow Wilson, which is

a pretty good way of making an epigram
out of a slang phrase.

If platitudes could only be practiced as
well as preached!

In his Japanese war talk, Admiral
Evans is now emulating our friend Hob-
son closely.

Margaret Hingston's play, "Until Eter-
nity," has failed. It sounded as if it
looked forward to too long a run.

A lady in Louisiana found \$800 in an
old skirt. We newspaper people seldom
overlook trines of loose change like that.

A LITTLE NONSENSE.

KINGS IN EXILE.
When the hidden mine they spring
And the citizens revolt,
Then the unsuspecting king
Gets a jolt.

'Round his highness frenzied men
For a fierce and frantic mob,
Separate him there and then
From his job.

Soon he roams from throne to throne.
Brother monarchs with him share,
Hand him out a crust or bone
Here and there.

For he cannot act or sing.
Be a waiter or a clerk.
It is tough to see a king
Out of work.

Killing Time.
"What shall we do, old chap?"
"Well, I don't know, dear boy. There
are so many objections to everything."

A Mean Man.
"Rather rough treatment, that," de-
clared the traveling salesman.
"What did he do?"
"Got me to give his clerks a long talk
on salesmanship, and then refused to
give me any kind of an order."

Sizing Him Up.
Never judge a fellow by his clothes
In this life.
You can judge a fellow best by those
Of his wife.

Still Life.
"I want some pictures for my dining-
room."

"We have some nice fish pictures; also
some studies of game."

"Wouldn't a picture of a bottle of pep-
sin tablets be more suitable, don't you
think?"

She Knew.
"What's all this trouble about the
long and short haul?" demanded the sec-
retary of the woman's club.

"It's this way," explained the treas-
urer. "Some dressmakers say a train
ought to be six feet in length. Others
say three feet is enough."

Something More in Demand.
"Miss old girl has volunteered to sell
kisses."

"Well?"
"You are hereby designated to persuade
her to sell fancy work instead. We
must positively make some money out
of this fair."

The Ingredients of Revolution.
From the New York Mail.

The French revolution was different.
That in Portugal is true to type. Its
ingredients are, first, a mutiny in the army
and navy; second, a scandal about the
government and a woman; third, the almost
unbeatable flight of a little-regarded royal
family; fourth, the expulsion of all the
religious orders; fifth, the confiscation
of church property; sixth, the momentary
appearance of "the college professor in
politics;" seventh, in the background
the shadow of a crushing national debt.
These same phenomena have recurred in
a score of revolutions in the last cen-
tury. They may come up often enough
hereafter.

One of the Requirements.
From Pack.

"Sometimes I voted for men who turned
my stomach, but I said to myself: 'Bad
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POLITICAL COMMENT.

A Return to Old Methods.
From the New York American.

One of the cheerful prospects of the
times is the revival in New Jersey of
the old-fashioned political debate.

Memories are awakened of the breath-
less crowds that hung upon the lips of
Lincoln and Douglas.

There are suggestions also of the mov-
ing of the republic when the peripatetic
philosophers of politics smote each other
with the hard, fire-tempered dogmas of
Jefferson and Hamilton.

The decadence of logical debate in leg-
islative chambers and on the hustings
has seemed to bear an ominous relation
to the rise of machine politics and the
predominance of cash payment as a con-
vincing argument.

The decline of clear ideas in political
controversy has been accompanied also
by an over-emphasis of the importance
of noisy individuals.

If we are to perpetuate a government
by laws and not by men, we must have
a politics of ideas rather than of per-
sonalities.

And the old-time wrestle of free minds
must once more stir the intellectual
passion of multitudes and settle the tense
issues of public policy.

Thus there is exaltation in the news
that Woodrow Wilson has challenged his
opponents and gainsayers to meet him
before the people in open debate.

Azoreans Oppose Annexation.
From the Boston Transcript.

An Azorean, resident in Massachusetts,
takes exception to the current statement
that the people of the Azores and their
kin settled in this country are prepon-
derately in favor of annexation to the
United States. Whether at home or here,
the Azoreans have the warmest regard
for this country, our correspondent as-
serts, but they never forget their parent
land, and in the present crisis a local
influence disposes them to be well wishers
of the republican experiment in Lisbon.

That influence lies in the circumstance
that Theophile Braga, the provisional
president at Portugal, is a native of the
Azores, having been born at Ponta Del-
gada about fifty-five years ago. They
feel a pride in the prominence he has
attained in the mother country.

Roosevelt Did Not "Bargain."
From the Kansas City Star.

But Col. Roosevelt did not tell his
Southern audiences that in order to be-
come temporary chairman of the Sara-
toga convention and procure the direct
primary plank he allowed the stand-
patters to "frame their own tariff
plank." What he did say was that he
and his supporters did not have a ma-
jority on the tariff issue, and that there-
fore, he was not responsible for the
tariff plank. He also said that his tariff
views were clearly expressed in the
speech he delivered as temporary chair-
man and in his addresses on his West-
ern tour.

A Battle Worth While.
From the Springfield Union.

It will be an interesting rivalry—Roose-
velt and Parker in a State-wide forensic
battle. We can picture with what indigna-
tion and concern the former judge will
assail Roosevelt as the foe of the judi-
ciary and every other national safeguard.
It is not impossible that Parker thinks
the Democratic nomination in 1912 may
fall to him, and, anticipating that Roose-
velt may be the Republican nominee,
dreams of turning the tables on his old
foe. What dream could be more pleas-
ant? What vision more potent to urge a war-
rior on to combat?

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